

SHAPING THE NEW NATION**Pre-Test**

Directions: Fill in the blanks.

1. Democracy first appeared in _____.
2. The main job of the U.S. Congress is to _____.
3. The highest law of the land in the United States is the _____.
4. The founders of Plymouth Colony wrote a document that first created self-government in America called the _____.
5. During most of the 1780s, the United States government was based on a document called _____.

SHAPING THE NEW NATION

Vocabulary List

Age of Reason A period of history from about 1650-1800, marked by great advances in science and the idea that mankind could be improved by developing institutions that foster the use of reason rather than superstition.

Articles of Confederation An agreement signed by the original 13 states that created a very weak federal government, and resulted in the states that were like independent countries. The Constitution replaced the Articles of Confederation in 1788.

article In legal documents an article is a main topic. The U.S. constitution has seven articles.

bail Refundable money paid to a court in order to get out of jail while awaiting trial. The more serious the crime the higher the bail.

Bill of Rights The first ten amendments to the constitution, which guarantee basic rights and freedoms.

checks and balances A system of government in which the activities and powers of each branch are balanced by the other branches.

compact A formal agreement or contract
compromise - to make changes acceptable to both sides.

congress The legislative branch of American government. It is composed of a Senate and House of Representatives.

consistent - Compatible, not in contradiction to: All laws and legal processes in the U.S. must be consistent with the constitution.

consul One of two annually elected men who held supreme authority in the Roman Republic. Today consul means refers to the representative of a nation in a foreign country.

Constitutional Convention - A meeting held in 1787 to frame a constitution for the U.S.

constitution A framework for government.

convention An assembly, conference or meeting.

democracy Government by the people.

delegates Representatives sent to a conference.

document - A document is something written to provide information of an official nature.

domestic tranquility peace at home.

enactment - To allow a piece of legislation to become official law.

Enlightenment (the) Same as the Age of Reason.

Executive The branch of government that deals with making important decisions. The U.S. president is called the "chief executive."

federal Nationwide, refers to the nation as a whole.

flourish To thrive.

Franklin, Benjamin Great American statesman and scientist. Franklin signed the Declaration of Independence, the peace treaty with Great Britain, and the U.S. Constitution.

framer A person who builds a framework. Since the constitution is a framework of government, the men who worked on it are known as the "framers of the constitution." Carpenters who build the framework of houses are also called framers.

framework Something's basic structure.

House of Representatives A legislative body elected from a congressional district to serve a two-year term.

judicial Refers to judging.

Judeo-Christian Traditions and beliefs shared by Jews and Christians that derive from the Old Testament of the Bible.

(Continued on Blackline Master 3)

SHAPING THE NEW NATION

Vocabulary List *(continued)*

legislative Refers to the making of laws.

supreme All powerful.

legislature A law-making assembly.

tempering Restraining, moderating

legislation Laws or proposed laws.

Treaty of Paris Final peace agreement between Great Britain and the United States signed in 1783.

Madison, James The man considered to have made the most important contributions in shaping the constitution. He is often called the "Father of the Constitution", James Madison became the fourth U.S. president.

tribune During the Roman Republic, tribunes were men elected to represent the common people (plebians).

Magna Carta "Great Charter" was signed in 1215 by King John of England. By doing so, he agreed to abide by feudal laws and share his power with his noblemen.

unconstitutional Laws or legal processes that are contradictory to the constitution.

vest(ed) To confer powers upon.

Mayflower Compact An agreement signed by the men who founded Plymouth Colony gave rise to the first self-government in America ordain-to enact.

veto The right to prohibit or forbid the enactment of legislation into official law. The president can veto legislation approved by the congress.

philosopher A person dedicated to the study of philosophy; the pursuit of wisdom.

posterity Later generations.

preamble An introduction to a document.

republic A nation in which supreme power is held by the people or their elected representatives.

representative A person elected to represent a certain community, state, or nation.

ratify, ratification To officially accept a treaty.

Senate One of the two branches of the U.S. Congress; the upper house of the legislature. The first senate during the Roman Republic.

Senator A person who serves in the senate. Each state has two senators.

Supreme Court The highest court in the United States. The president nominates the justices who serve on the court and if congress approves their nomination they serve for life.

Vocabulary List Activities

1. Using the vocabulary list or a dictionary, explain what the following passages mean:

A. "....ensure domestic tranquility...."

B. "...secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity...."

C. The president vetoed the legislation.

D. The Supreme Court declared the law to be unconstitutional.

2. Write sentences using the following words:

A. preamble

B. framework

C. republic

D. federal

E. executive

SHAPING THE NEW NATION**Crossword Puzzle****ACROSS:**

1. A document written in 1215 called the _____ ended up giving rise to England's Parliament.

2. From 1781 to 1788 The United States government was based on the Articles of _____.

3. A nation where citizens elect people to represent them in government is called a _____.

4. The main topics of the U.S. Constitution, such as those which describe the branches of government are called the _____ of the Constitution.

5. The highest court in the Judicial branch of the U.S. government is called the _____ court.

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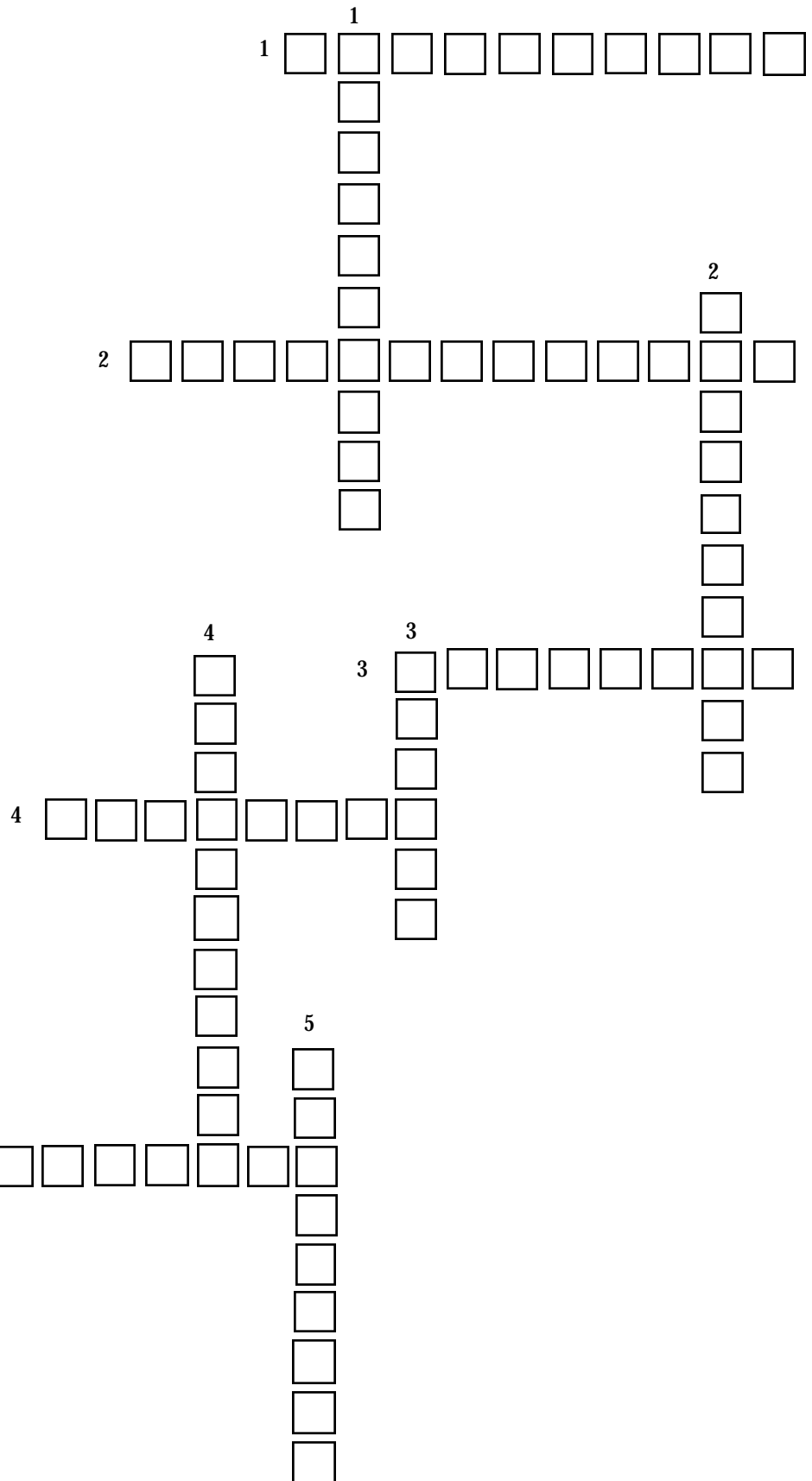
1. The first ten _____ to the constitution are called the Bill of Rights.

2. The U.S constitution was written at the Constitutional _____ held in Philadelphia in 1787.

3. The framers of the U.S. constitution lived during the historical era called the Age of _____.

4. The U.S. Congress is the _____ branch of the federal government.

5. The president of the U.S. heads the _____ branch of the federal government.



SHAPING THE NEW NATION**Timeline**

509 B.C. Democracy begins in Ancient Athens.
The Roman republic begins.

27 B.C. End of the Roman Republic.

33 A.D. Death of Christ.

1215 A.D. The Magna Carta is signed.

1492 A.D. Columbus' first voyage to the New World.

1607 A.D. First successful English colony is founded at Jamestown, Virginia.

1620 A.D. Mayflower Compact is signed.

1660s A.D. Approximate beginning of the Age of Reason.

1665 A.D. Robert Hooke is the first person to describe cells viewed through a microscope.

1687 A.D. Isaac Newton publishes a revolutionary book on physics.

1688 A.D. England "Glorious Revolution" gives parliament additional powers.

1775 A.D. Revolutionary War begins at Lexington, Massachusetts.

1776 A.D. Declaration of Independence.

1781 A.D. The British surrender at Yorktown. The Articles of Confederation are adopted.

1783 A.D. Final peace treaty between Great Britain and the U.S. is signed in Paris.

1787 A.D. Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia produces a new U.S. Constitution.

1788 A.D. The new U.S. Constitution is ratified by two-thirds of the states. The Articles of Confederation are discontinued.

1789 A.D. George Washington is elected the first U.S. president.

1790 A.D. Death of Benjamin Franklin. A site near the Potomac River is chosen for the new U.S. capital: Washington, D.C.

1791 A.D. James Madison writes the first ten amendments to the Constitution; the Bill of Rights. Vermont becomes a state.

1792 A.D. Kentucky becomes the 15th state.

1796 A.D. John Adams is elected president. Tennessee becomes the 16th state.

1799 A.D. George Washington dies.

Timeline Activity

Directions: Using the number one as the oldest and ten as the most recent, number the following events from one to ten. Write the date(s) after each number.

A. Mayflower Compact

B. Roman Republic

C. Magna Carta

D. Site chosen for new U.S. capital.

E. George Washington elected President.

F. U.S. Constitution ratified.

G. Columbus' first voyage to the New World.

H. U.S. governed under terms of the Articles of Confederation.

I. Revolutionary War begins.

J. Vermont becomes a state.

SHAPING THE NEW NATION**Post-Test****Matching**

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| 1. Chief executive | A. Meeting where the new framework for the U.S. government was produced. |
| 2. First U.S. self-government document | B. House of Representatives |
| 3. veto | C. Supreme Court |
| 4. Part of legislative branch of U.S. government | D. Ninth Amendment to the Constitution |
| 5. Highest part of Judicial branch | E. Introduction to the U.S. Constitution |
| 6. Model for U.S. Congress | F. U.S. president |
| 7. Part of Bill of Rights | G. Ancient Athens |
| 8. Preamble | H. Mayflower Compact |
| 9. Democracy's birthplace | I. English Parliament |
| 10. Constitutional Convention | J. to prohibit the enactment of a law |

Essay Question:

Summarize the first six Articles of the Constitution.

SHAPING THE NEW NATION
Video Quiz

Directions: Answer the following questions after viewing the program.

1. TRUE OR FALSE? The Articles of Confederation gave the states less power than the federal government.
2. TRUE OR FALSE? Under the U.S. Constitution, the federal government has four main branches.
3. TRUE OR FALSE? The idea of having a senate came from Ancient Rome.
4. TRUE OR FALSE? The Magna Carta was intended to increase the power of kings.
5. TRUE OR FALSE? The Age of Reason was a time of great achievement in science and mathematics.